Yesseus Mazareus Yessedekeus

In Sethian Gnostic texts, **Yesseus Mazareus Yessedekeus** is the personification of the Living Water. He is mentioned in the Nag Hammadi tractates of the *Holy Book of the Great Invisible Spirit*, *Zostrianos*, and *Apocalypse of Adam*.[1]

Etymology

Meyer (2007) gives the etymology of the Yesseus Mazareus Yessedekeus as follows.[1]

- *Yesseus* from Jesus
- *Mazareus* from Nazarene (Greek: *nazōraios*)
- *Yessedekeus* from "the righteous" (Greek: *ho dikaios*)

In contrast, Lofts (2010) connects Mazareus with Mazzaroth and considers Yessedekeus to be cognate with Sadducee, in turn derived from Yu/Yu (an epithet for the divine) and the root צָדַק, *ṣāḏaq* (to be right, just). Lofts also propose that the name Yessedekeus is also found in Mandaeism in the form of Yuzaṭaq, an epithet for Manda d-Hayyi.[2][3]:39

Parallels in Mandaeism

In Mandaeism, the uthra (celestial spirit) Piriawis Ziwa is the personification of the heavenly river of living water.[4] Qulasta prayers 13 and 17 mention Piriawis Ziwa and Piriafil Malaka together as uthras.[5]

In Mandaean scriptures such as the *Ginza Rabba*, *Praš Ziwa* (pronounced *Fraš Ziwa*) is mentioned as the personification of the Euphrates,[6] which is considered to be the earthly manifestation of the heavenly yardna or flowing river (similar to the Yazidi concept of Lalish being the earthly manifestation of its heavenly counterpart).[7]

See also

- Five Seals
- Micheus, Michar, and Mnesinous
- Piriawis
- Jesus in Manichaeism

- Mandaean priests, who are referred to as *Nasoraeans* (Nazarenes)
- Water of Life (Christianity)
- Living Water

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